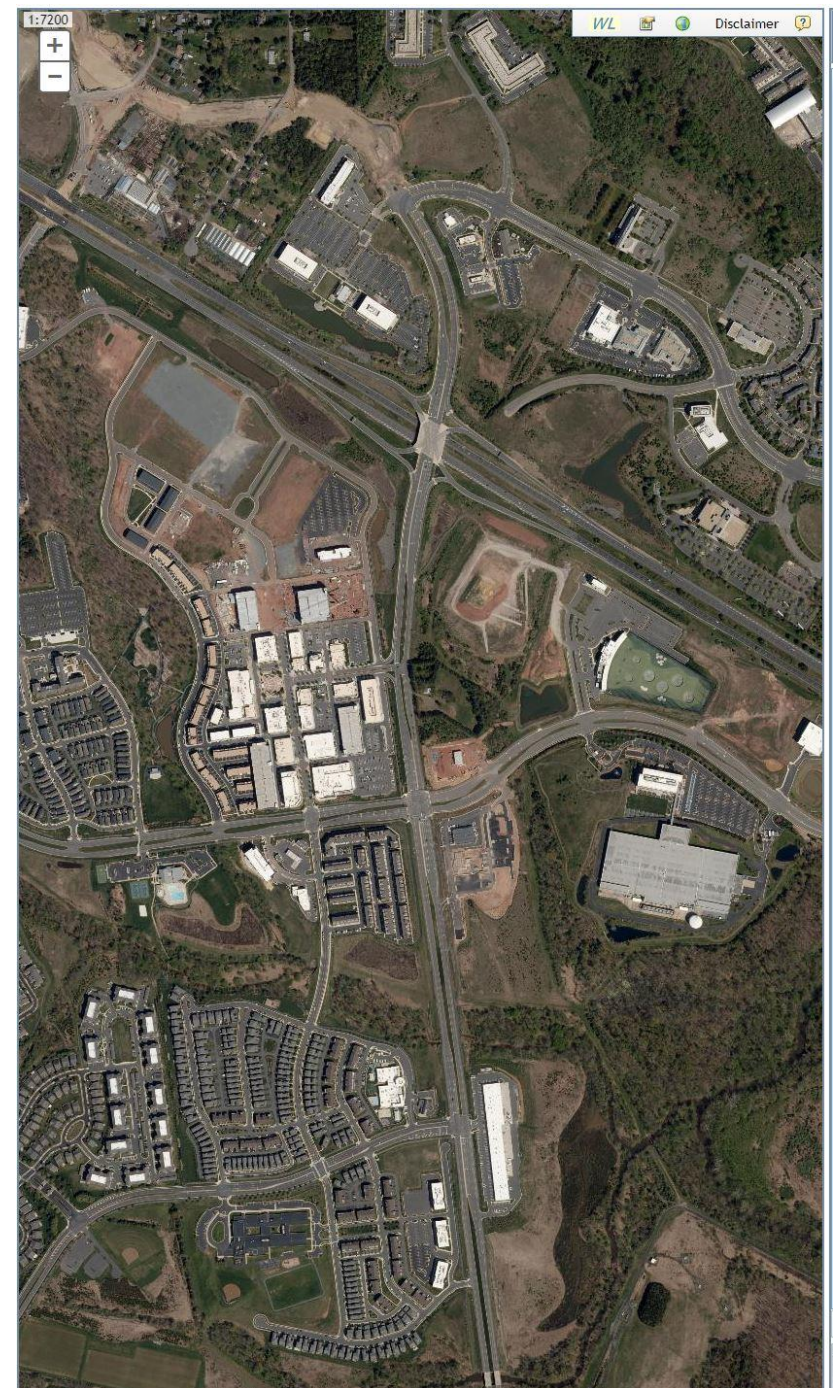




The Last Days of Dairy Farming in Loudoun County

Route 7 & Loudoun County Parkway



Reed Dairy Farm – Lovettsville 1957



Photo courtesy of Lovettsville Historical Society



Reed Dairy Farm – Lovettsville 2020



Lovettsville's new county park



Historic Buildings

Orchard Crest Farm – Purcellville/Hillsboro

Owned by the Potts family since 1747

Once a dairy farm –
now primarily beef cattle, corn, and hay





Orchard Crest Farm

Recognized as a Virginia Century Farm



Decline of the dairy industry*

- Dulles Airport
- Urban and suburban growth
- Lack of acreage
- Lack of labor
- Low milk prices
- Increase in costs
- Inheritance taxes



** The Story of Loudoun's Dairy Industry*

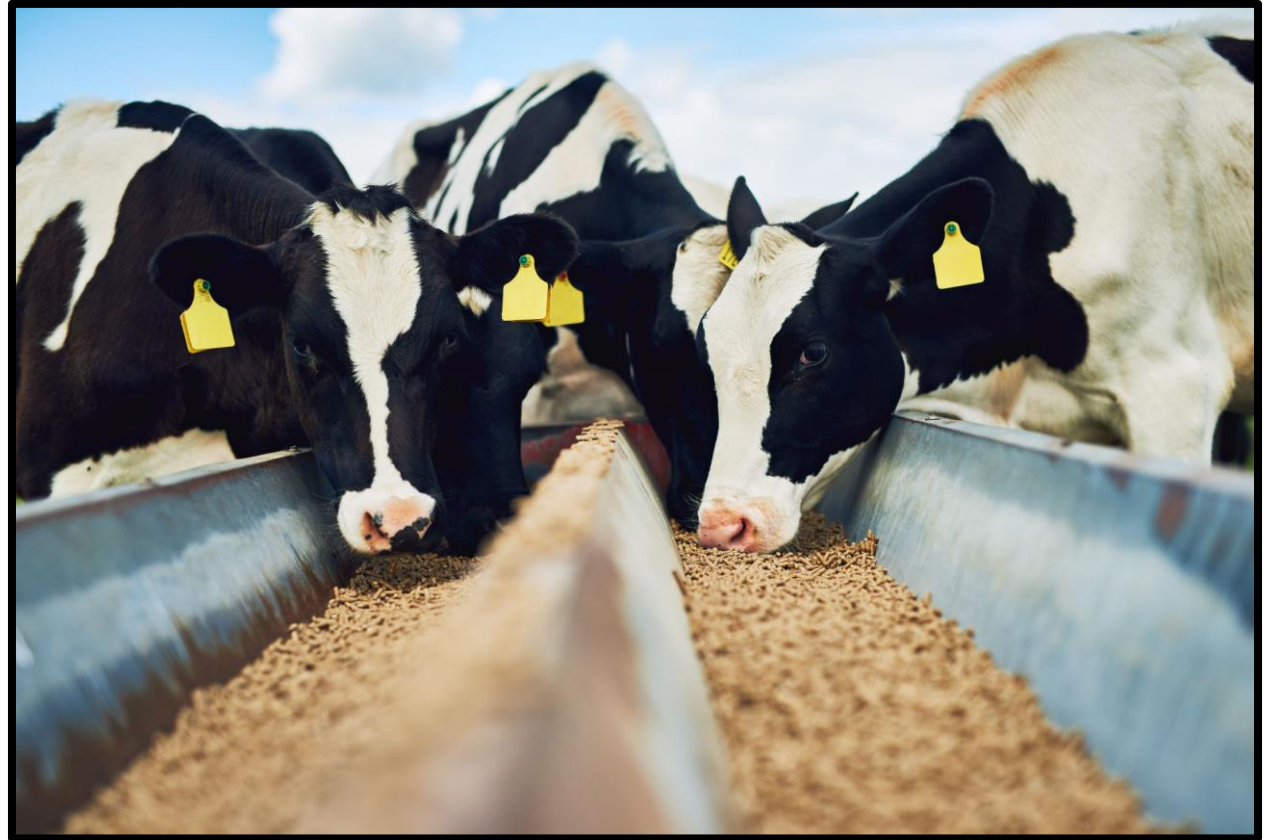
Decline of the dairy industry

Loudoun County Dairy Statistics 1949-1997 [*] (Statistics provided by National Agriculture Statistics Service, June 2006)				
Year	# of Milk Cows	# of Farms with Dairy Sales [*]	Value of Dairy Sales	% of all Ag Sales in Loudoun
1949	14,654	405	\$3,824,000	36.3
1954	16,076	376	\$4,169,000	41.8
1959	11,751	327	4,202,000	39.0
1964	9,912	236	\$4,027,000	36.8
1969	7,058	130	\$4,433,000	32.9
1974	5,231	87	\$4,521,000	23.4
1978	4,815	76	\$5,721,000	18.9
1982	2,880	50	\$4,574,000	14.2
1987	2,381	31	\$3,716,000	13.5
1992	1,479	18	\$3,274,000	12.2
1997	521	14	\$1,082,000	3.9

^{*} farms with Grade A and Grade B milk sales (Grade A milk is fluid milk used for drinking and must be produced under stricter regulations than Grade B milk which can only be used for manufacturing of dairy products.)

Decline of the dairy industry

- 1950s and 1960s – Loudoun #1 in Virginia for number of dairy farms and dairy cows
- 2006 – only one dairy farm remained



Dogwood Farm – near Lincoln

Lincoln Road, Purcellville

Family farm for over 200 years

4th generation dairy farm

Currently milking 90 registered
Holsteins



The Brown and Potts Families

MARRIAGE LICENSE

Virginia Loudoun County to-wit:

To Any Person Licensed to Celebrate Marriages:

You are hereby authorized to join together in the Holy State of Matrimony, according to the rites and ceremonies of your Church or religious denomination, and the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia,

Thurston J. Potts and Ruth Elizabeth Brown

Given under my hand, as Clerk of Circuit Court of Loudoun County (or City) this 6th day of August, 1923 B. H. Franklin, Clerk.

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

To be annexed to the License, required by Section 5074 of the Code of Virginia, 1919, as amended by Act of February 16, 1910.

VIRGINIA: In the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County (or City) of Loudoun

Date of Marriage August 8th 1923 Place of Marriage Lincoln, Va.

FULL NAMES OF PARTIES
Thurston J. Potts and Ruth Elizabeth Brown

Age of Husband 30 years; Condition (single, widowed or divorced) Single

Age of Wife 22 years; Condition (single, widowed or divorced) ..

Race (White or Colored) White

(PRESENT)
Husband's Place of Birth Loudoun Co. Mailing Address Round Hill, Va.

Wife's Place of Birth Loudoun Co. Mailing Address Purcellville, Va.

Names of Husband E. Clinton and Laura V. Potts

Parents Wife E. C. Brown and Mary Emma Brown

Occupation of Husband Farmer

Given under my hand this 6th day of August, 1923 B. H. Franklin, Clerk.

Certificate of Time and Place of Marriage

I, G. W. Mark, a Minister of the M. E. Church, or religious order of that name, do certify that on the 8th day of Aug., 1923,

at Lincoln, Virginia, under authority of the above License, I joined together in the Holy State of Matrimony the persons named and described therein. I qualified and gave bond according to law authorizing me to celebrate the rites of marriage in the County (or City) of Potteloun, State of Virginia.

Given under my hand this 8th day of Sept., 1923 G. W. Mark

(Person who performs ceremony sign here.)

§§The Minister or other person celebrating a marriage is required, within thirty (30) days thereafter, to return the License and Certificate of the Clerk and his certificate of the time and place at which the marriage was celebrated to the Clerk who issued the License; failure to comply with these requirements of the law makes the Minister or other person celebrating the marriage liable to a fine of not less than ten nor more than twenty dollars for each offense (see Section 5074 of the Code of Virginia, as amended by Act approved February 16, 1910, Acts 1910, chapter 28, pages 36 and 37).

MARRIAGE LICENSE

Virginia Loudoun County to-wit:

To Any Person Licensed to Celebrate Marriages:

You are hereby authorized to join together in the Holy State of Matrimony, according to the rites and ceremonies of your Church or religious denomination, and the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia,

Jennings F. Potts and Mary Letitia Brown

Given under my hand, as Clerk of Circuit Court of Loudoun County (or City) this 6th day of August, 1923 B. H. Franklin, Clerk.

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

To be annexed to the License, required by Section 5074 of the Code of Virginia, 1919, as amended by Act of February 16, 1910.

VIRGINIA: In the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County (or City) of Loudoun

Date of Marriage August 8th 1923 Place of Marriage Lincoln, Va.

FULL NAMES OF PARTIES
Jennings F. Potts and Mary Letitia Brown

Age of Husband 26 years; Condition (single, widowed or divorced) Single

Age of Wife 24 years; Condition (single, widowed or divorced) Single

Race (White or Colored) White

(PRESENT)
Husband's Place of Birth Loudoun Co. Mailing Address Round Hill, Va.

Wife's Place of Birth Loudoun Co. Mailing Address Purcellville, Va.

Names of Husband E. Clinton and Laura V. Potts

Parents Wife E. C. and Mary Emma Brown

Occupation of Husband Farmer

Given under my hand this 6th day of August, 1923 B. H. Franklin, Clerk.

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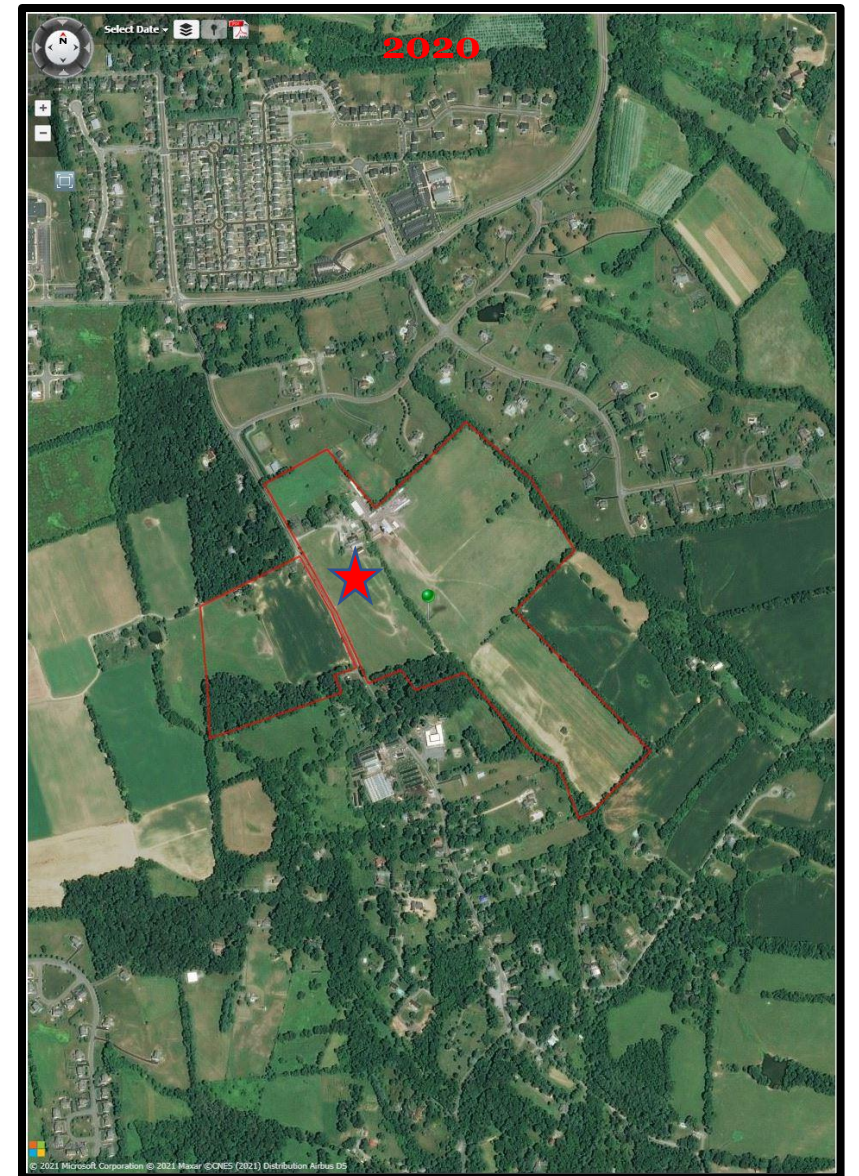
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Dogwood Farm



Dogwood Farm



Dogwood Farm LP Celebrates 100 Years of
Membership with Maryland & Virginia Milk
Producers Cooperative



